AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 13 (Canceled)

14. (New) A method for verifying the connection-related communications data registered by a network node, where the connection-related communications data are used for the calculation of charges, the method comprising:

establishing at least one predetermined test communication connection;

clearing the predetermined test communication connection via the network node;

registering a time of an event required for calculating the charges at a predetermined measuring point and in the network node;

registering a time of at least one additional event required for calculating the charges at at least one of the predetermined measuring point and at least one additional predetermined measuring point and in the network node, the predetermined measuring points lying outside of the network node;

determining a systematic temporal measuring error between a location of an occurrence of an actual event and the registration of the time of the event at the respective predetermined measuring point;

generating a reference data record that contains time-related data generated from the events registered at at least one of the measuring points;

generating at least one connection-related communications data record in the network node that contains time related data that describe the events registered in the network node;

correcting the time-related data of the reference data record by the systematic temporal measuring error;

comparing the reference data record to the at least one connection-related communications data record; and

determining if a difference between the time-related data of the connection-related communications data record and of the reference data record lies within a predetermined range.

3

15. (New) The method of claim 14 wherein the events represent at least one of the start and the end of the test communications connection and the start and the end of at least one service feature requested during the existing test communications connection.

16. (New) The method of claim 14 wherein a switching network node is used as the network node.

17. (New) The method of claim 14 further comprising:

assigning each measuring point at least one of a system clock or a shared system
clock; and

performing a calibration between the system clocks and a time standard.

18. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein the time difference ascertained between the system clock and the time standard at the time of calibration is used for correcting the time-related data of the reference data record.

19. (New) The method of claim 14 wherein a called subscriber of the test communications connection is chosen as the measuring point at which the start of the connection is to be registered and a subscriber who terminates the test communications connection is chosen as the measuring point at which the end of the connection is to be registered.

20. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the subscriber of the use of the service feature is chosen as the measuring point at which the start of the use of a service feature requested during an existing test communications connection is to be registered and the subscriber who terminates the use is chosen as the measuring point at which the end of the use of the service feature is to be registered.

21. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the time-related data of the reference data record include the duration of the connection, which is ascertained by the following steps:

starting a timer is based on the start of the connection registered at the measuring
point; and

stopping the timer based on the end of the connection registered at the or another
measuring point.

22. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the time-related data of the reference data record include the duration of the use of at least one service feature requested during the test communications connection, which is ascertained by the following steps:

starting a timer based on the start of the service feature registered at a measuring
point; and

4

stopping the timer based on the end of the use of the service feature registered at the or another measuring point.

23. (New) A system for verifying the connection-related communications data registered by a network node, where the connection-related communications data are used for calculating charges, the system having at least one call simulator connectible to the network node, the system comprising:

at least one system clock;

a device for establishing and clearing at least one predetermined test communications connection;

at least one device for producing predetermined events required for calculating charges;

at least one device for registering the times of at least some of the events required for calculating charges,

a device for generating a connection-related reference data record containing time-related data that describe the registered events; the network node including:

a device for registering the times of at least some of the events required for calculating charges;

a network node system clock; and

a device for generating at least one connection-related communications data record containing time-related data that describe the events registered in the network node;

a correction device assigned to the call simulator having a correction value stored therein, the correction value corresponding to a systematic temporal measuring error between the location of the occurrence of an actual event and the registering of the actual event at a registration device of the call simulator, the time-related data of the connection-related reference data record being corrected by the stored systematic temporal measuring error in the correction device;

a device for comparing the connection-related reference data record to the at least one communications data record; and

a device for determining whether a difference between the time-related data of the communications data record and the connection-related reference data record lies within a predetermined range.

5

24. (New) The system of claim 23 wherein the events represent at least one of the start and the end of a test communications connection and the start and the end of at least one service feature requested during the existing test communications connection.

25. (New) The system as recited in claim 23 wherein the network node is a switching network node.

26. (New) The system as recited in claim 23 wherein the system clocks of the call simulator are each designed to receive a standard time, such that a calibration being performed is between the system clocks and the standard time.